



WOODSTOCK, VIRGINIA.

Wednesday, Dec. 18, 1878.

The proceedings of the Legislature are not of a very interesting character. The usual number of private bills have been presented. Resolutions in opposition to the diversion of the school fund, and proposed amendments to the constitution have been referred to the proper committees. The great subject in which the people are most interested is the adjustment of the debt. We do not indulge in any sanguine expectations of a settlement of this question. It is, however, the great work to be done. Let an adjustment be made.

Let the people know how much tax they are expected to pay, and for the sake of the prosperity of the entire State, let the question be forever removed out of politics. Let the Legislature accomplish this work, and they will receive the hearty thanks of their constituents.

REARJUSTERS OF THE General Assembly. Let us diffidently admonish you against even the appearance of shirking the issue!

If you are sure that a satisfactory and just settlement of the debt can be had during your present session, then do not waste any valuable time in preparing for an organized campaign next summer. But if the debt question is to be just where it is at your adjournment, then rest assured that upon the result of next fall's elections depends the issue.

If you cannot settle this debt question this winter, then organize.

We want no skillful sentimentality about conservatism. The organization already started in Richmond has thrown it to the dogs. They are organizing and bidding for any and all kinds of offices. The moment the legislature adjourns without effecting a permanent settlement will come their efforts for carrying the State next fall.

Remember we have no organization. If we are to have one it must be begun by our representatives now in Richmond. Start it there and it will be a success. Without organization defeat is assured in advance. With it, success comes without effort.

Be careful, gentlemen, that you are not cheated by the wily halleys of the cunning lobbyists and anti-federal rearjusters. Fools are much more to be feared than Johnson. Such men do not want the issue unless they can have it by organization on one side against independent voters, so called, on the other.

Either settle the debt question now, or organize to do it hereafter! Trust no man who skulks behind the epithet of "federal."

SENATOR EDMUND'S BILL FOR COUNTING THE ELECTORAL VOTE.

The bill of Senator Edmunds, which was introduced at the last session of Congress, representing the views of the select committee appointed for that purpose, and providing a new and explicit system for counting the votes of electors in the elections of President and Vice-President of the United States, passed the Senate last Friday by a substantial majority. All the republican Senators who were present voted for it, and nearly all the democratic Senators voted against it. This would seem to seal the fate of the bill when it comes into the House, in which the democrats have such a positive majority. It is certainly much to be desired that such provision should be made at the earliest day possible for counting the electoral votes as will prevent the recurrence of the dangerous complication of 1876, but it is probable that Mr. Edmunds' close identity with the authorship of the electoral commission act, by virtue of which Mr. Hayes was elevated to the presidency, incites democrats to look upon the most ingenious and innocent measure emanating from that Senator upon that subject with suspicion. The bill, judging from Mr. Edmunds' explanation of its chief provisions, is intended to delegate the entire matter of the choice of electors in the most absolute manner to the States themselves, and for this purpose the presidential election is to be held a month earlier, and the meeting of the electors at the State capital is postponed a month later than at present prescribed. The counting of the votes is to be done as now, by the two houses of Congress in joint convention, and, in the case of two sets of returns, the two houses together must declare which is the true one. It should be any question as to the legitimacy or official character of a return, it is not to be received except upon the affirmative vote of both houses. The other provisions of the bill seem to be similar to those of the existing law.

Mention was made in yesterday's Gazette, of the loss of Miss Sanford, of Loudoun county, on the steamer Cotton Valley. The particulars of her death have been received by a dispatch, which says: "Among those on the steamer was Miss Sanford, a girl of sixteen, from Loudoun county, Va., on her way to some relatives in Rapids. Clad only in a chemise, she refused to enter the life boat thus exposed. Far off on the hurricane deck she stood wringing her hands, when H. Stein, clerk of the Morgan, came near in a yawl. He begged her for God's sake, to leap into the river pointing out a box to which she might cling, just then the Valley made a plunge and went down, stern first and Miss Sanford was lost."—Alex. Gazette.

It is a wonderful fact, but a fact nevertheless, that the butter and cheese made in the United States is worth \$350,000,000, and is more valuable than any crop the country produces, except corn.

News Items.

The Virginia Legislature will take a recess on 20th of this month until the 2d of January.

The residence of Geo. W. Bray, near Fredericksburg, Va., was destroyed by fire a few days ago.

William Merrick has been convicted at Indianapolis and sentenced to death for the murder of his wife.

Col. Forney in his newspaper uses the pronoun "I" instead of "we." It is to have him say "I-uu" for "we-us."

John Crawford, a poor laborer of Finlay, O., tell her to \$1,500,000 worth of property on Thursday. A Pittsburg uncle died.

A heavy gale from the North has been prevailing several days on the Pacific coast. A boat capsized at San Francisco and two Italian fishermen were drowned.

Wm. H. Logan, a West Monterey, Pa., postoffice clerk, has been arrested for destroying letters to prevent the appointment of a man named Hogan as postmaster.

Rev. Theo. Reed, rector of Christ Church, Gooresville, Loudoun county, has received and accepted a call from the Episcopal congregation at Thomasville, Ga.

The Rev. Gilbert William, pastor of a colored church at Ekko, S. C., has been forced by his congregation to resign his pastorate because he voted the democratic ticket.

Mrs. Eliza Perry has purchased 125 acres of the farm of George H. Turner, two miles from Charlestown, W. Va., with a good dwelling and other improvements, for \$53 per acre.

Snow to the depth of about a foot fell in Chicago during Saturday. West, south and north of Chicago it seems to have been much heavier. Trains are generally running very nearly on time.

The Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children in New York has forbidden the exhibition of a baby weighing a pound in a Catmum Square museum, although it was in charge of its mother and was wrapped up in red satin.

Gov. Hampton, of South Carolina, had his leg amputated on the 10th six inches below the knee. The Legislature, the same day, elected him United States Senator for six years from the 4th of March next, with but two dissenting voices.

William Wirt Henry, grandson of Patrick Henry and an eminent member of the Richmond bar and a leader in the Virginia Legislature, wants Bayard for President, and says that he will vote for a hard-money republican rather than for a greenback democrat.

At Newcastle, Craig, county, Va., last court day, Hon. James W. Marshall, opposing counsel in a case, was assaulted by C. T. Steele with a club, and afterwards with a stone, whereupon a friend of the former knocked Steele down, and for a time things were quite lively.

Gen. Butler announced the close of the plaintiff's case in the suit of Wilson against Gen. Sheridan, in the United States Circuit Court. Gen. Butler objected to the admission of defendant's amendment to the answer, (complaint having been amended two days after the trial had commenced), but Judge Wallace, after long argument between General Butler and Mr. Beckwith, United States district attorney of Louisiana, decided to admit it.

The condition of Gov. Hampton is regarded less favorable, although no serious change has taken place since yesterday. He rested well again last night and retained nourishment as usual. This morning, unless hemorrhage occurs the prospect of his recovery is looked upon as certain. Still, there are state needs made which do not encourage this belief, and the worst may be feared for several days to come.

Before the death of A. T. Stewart he sold an Alabama merchant \$2,000 worth of goods, which the merchant sold at a loss. Stewart brought suit against him for obtaining goods under false pretenses. The Alabama filed a cross-bill against Stewart for defamatory character, and an Alabama jury gave him a judgment for \$25,000. It was appealed to the United States Supreme Court but meanwhile Stewart died. Judge Hilton, however, representing the estate, is seeking to obtain a release of the judgment. Senator Conkling will argue the case at Washington to-day.

Governor Hollister to the Virginia Senate yesterday the records in the alleged invasion of State jurisdiction by Judge Rives, of the United States Court, involving the question of the right of trial by colored or mixed juries, accompanied by the opinion of Judge Tredway, of the State Court, whose jurisdiction was overruled, and the State attorney general, Judge Tredway, favors applying to the Supreme Court of the United States for a mandamus, but suggests the advisability of first presenting the case to the consideration of the Executive, as it may be that the department of justice can take cognizance of and redress the wrong. The attorney general makes an elaborate argument to show that Judge Rives had usurped power and jurisdiction that does not lawfully pertain to him.

JACKSONVILLE, Fla., Dec. 14.—One night about a month since a mill at Mount Carrie, Columbia county, was set on fire by four negroes. The superintendent of the mill living near by saw the flames and extinguished them before much damage was done. While the superintendent was absent from his house the negroes entered, beat his wife severely, and compelled her to show them where her husband's money was. They obtained \$200. The men were arrested the next day, confessed the crime, and were committed to jail in Lake City. About a week since the jail was burned, and the men were removed to the court house. This morning at Lake City, at three o'clock, some thirty or forty disguised men overpowered the guard, took the prisoners out into the street in front of the Baptist Church, shot two of them dead, and mortally injured the third. The other escaped, and has since given himself up to the authorities.

valley News Items.

The Luray Cave is to be illuminated on the 27th inst.

Diphtheria and scarletina have been prevailing to a considerable extent in Rockingham county.

Mr. Delaney, of the Old Commonwealth, has returned to Harrisonburg after a month's visit to the city of Philadelphia.

On Tuesday last the Town Council of Harrisonburg destroyed by fire \$2,000 of the bonds of the Washington City, Cincinnati & St. Louis Narrow Gauge Railroad which had been redeemed.

Mr. John P. Dulany died at his residence in Loudoun county Tuesday evening, after a lingering illness, aged 93 years. Mr. Dulany was one of the wealthiest and most respected citizens of the county.

The Rockingham Register says: Mr. J. H. Sims, an excellent Clerk of the Circuit Court, had his shoulder dislocated on Wednesday morning last by a fall on the street. Though he is suffering considerable pain, we were glad to state that he sustained no serious injury.

Sad Occurrence.

On Thursday morning, the 26th day of November, 1878, a party consisting of Wm. C. Baber, Jos. K. Smithson, Jas. M. Crail, T. H. W. Sullivan, E. E. McClure and M. D. Jones left their camp on the south side of Cold Knob, in Greenbrier county, with a wagon and team; with the intention of making their way through the snow-drifts to the Holiday place, on the waters of Cherry River, a point about twelve miles distant. They had traveled about five miles, and had reached the south extremity of Bull Hill, when it was discovered that a bear had crossed the road the previous night, making its way in the direction of the south fork of Cherry river. Mr. Baber who was driving the team, dismounted, called up two dogs that were with them, and started in pursuit of the bear, requesting the company to drive on while he would go round the hill a little way. He had neither weapons, firearms nor provisions.

—The company moved on, leaving the point at about eleven o'clock, and expecting Mr. Baber to come up at every moment and reached their place of destination before midnight. On the following morning, the 27th, the news was spread that Mr. Baber had not yet returned, and search was made by several, Thomas A. Baber, John H. Hunsbaker, and Harry Hockett, who returned about evening, bringing the information that he was still in pursuit of the bear, when they turned back from his trail, pulling it through snow and crevices, through laurel thickets. On the following morning, the 28th, search was continued by Messrs. H. P. Crots, Michael Rutledge, John Hunsbaker, Jas. A. Baber, T. H. W. Sullivan. The day spent in following the zig zag way the bear and man had gone. A little before night the point was gained, where the man had given up the chase, and started in the direct course for the road. He traveled straight for a half a mile or more, when he turned right, and went into a dense laurel thicket, which he passed through down the hill to Cold Spring Run. Here it was found that he had taken the water. The party came into camp for the night, and on the following morning, the 29th, discovered by the trails of the dogs on the banks that the last man had gone down the creek. He followed the creek half a mile, when it emptied into the south fork of Cherry river, thence down the river about the same distance, never making a mark on the banks, nor passing over a log that lay above water. Here he came ashore on the south side of the stream, climbed the mountain about a quarter of a mile, stopping twice, but never getting off his feet. Just as he topped the bluff he lay down exhausted, closed his eyes, and died. It seems without pain or struggle. His own dog remained with him till he was found; the other left him after he lay down, and went back to the settlement. The dead body was conveyed on the 30th to the road, some two and a-half miles distant, on a litter; thence by wagon to his family. Mr. Baber had recently moved to that section from Blue Sulphur. He was highly respected wherever known, and his sad death will be deeply regretted.

SAVE MONEY !!

I respectfully inform all needing my services that I am prepared to dig graves at much lower rates than has heretofore been charged for such work.

HERSHY SHAFER.

Nicholas White & Co.

Norfolk Oyster Depot

621 B St., bet. Sixth and Seventh N.W.

Opp. Bldg. & P. Co. Bldg.

WASHINGTON, D. C.

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

NO BLANKS.—Two thousand persons will read up a dollar each in a scheme offering a prize of \$1,000, though only one can get it, and 1,999 must lose his dollar. A publisher puts \$2,000 into collecting and preparing useful information, and offers to every one of 2,000 persons who contributes only a dollar or so, a printed duplicate of the results, so that each one may have the entire benefit of what has actually cost \$2,000 or more. Is not this better than any uncertain chance scheme, full of blank tickets? This applies to all good journals and all good books.

Here is a good special illustration. The Publishers of the *American Agriculturist* expend \$25,000 a year in gathering plain, practical, reliable information, valuable to every person, to every family, in country, village, or city. There are 700 to 800 original engravings in each volume, which bring right to the eye and understanding a multitude of labor-saving and labor-helping contrivances, and implements, for out-door and in-door work,—very many of them home-produced. This great number of useful, instructive, and pleasing engravings, is a most valuable feature of the *American Agriculturist*, making it greatly superior to any other source of similar information. This Journal constantly publishes caustic exposures of Humbugs and Swindlers, which save its readers many times its cost. Over \$25,000 a year are expended in collecting and preparing information, engravings, etc., giving thousands of useful hints and suggestions. Yet each and every reader gets the full benefit of \$25,000 outlay. The cost to single subscribers is only \$1.50 a year, postage four cents; \$1.25 each year, and a club of ten or more only \$1.00 each. (Specimen copies 10 cents each, post free.) It will pay every one to have this Journal. Try it. Marshall's magnificent Steel-Plate Engraving, entitled "The Farmer's Prize," is presented to each subscriber. Over 200 copies extra cover cost of packing and postage. OXAROK JUDS CO., Publishers, 245 Broadway, New York.

New Advertisements.

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

P. Heller & Co.

Are now selling off

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—